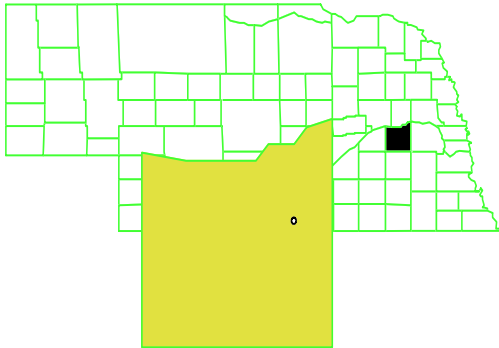


**BRUNO CO-OP
ASSOCIATION/
ASSOCIATED
PROPERTIES
NEBRASKA
EPA ID# NED981713829**

**EPA Region 7
City: Bruno
County: Butler County
Other Names:**

08/07/2003



SITE DESCRIPTION

The Bruno Cooperative Association/Associated Properties (Bruno Co-op) site is located in Bruno, Nebraska and consists of two contaminated municipal wells and an associated groundwater plume containing grain fumigants. One well is located at the intersection of Pine and Third Streets and the second well is positioned 1,000 feet northwest of the first and is located on property that has been used to store grain since the 1940s. The site was originally owned by the Chicago and North Western Railway Company from 1947 to the 1960s and part of the property was leased to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) which used it as a Federal grain storage facility. Local farmers purchased all but one of the corn crib bins in 1964 and moved them off-site. The Bruno Co-op purchased the remaining bin and in 1988 the company also purchased Wagner Mills, Incorporated, a second business operating on the site. Currently, the Bruno Co-op has two functional bins.

Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) were first detected in 1986 by the Nebraska Department of Health (NDOH). These contaminants had been poured or pumped into the grain as fumigants and were also disposed at the surface for rodent control. The surrounding area is primarily agricultural, with a limited amount of commercial and residential use.

Site Responsibility:

The site is being addressed through federal and state oversight of responsible parties conducting cleanup activities under a Consent Decree.

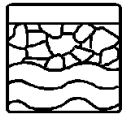
NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 10/14/1992

Final Date: 06/17/1996

Deleted Date:

THREATS AND CONTAMINANTS



The EPA and NDOH have conducted tests and detected various VOCs, including carbon tetrachloride, chloroform, and 1,2-dichloroethane in the two wells. A subsurface VOC groundwater plume is emanating from the site. People who ingest or come into direct contact with groundwater containing these contaminants could be at risk; there are no groundwater use restrictions in the surrounding rural area. Groundwater is heavily used for agricultural purposes in this region and may also be used by individuals with private wells as a drinking water source. People within the Bruno community use two new municipal wells that provide the village with good quality drinking water and do not currently consume water from the impacted former municipal wells.

CLEANUP APPROACH

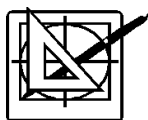
Response Action Status

Initial Actions: The EPA supplied bottled water to 150 Bruno residents from mid-1989 to late 1990 as the Bruno Public Water Supply Company constructed new wells. Site characterization activities were initiated by USDA with oversight by EPA and the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ).

Entire Site: The investigation of the nature and extent of contamination was completed in the fall of 1994 and the subsequent feasibility study was completed in July of 1998. A Record of Decision (ROD) was signed on September 30, 1998; the selected remedy included groundwater treatment using extraction and air stripping technology. Additional components of the remedy included the abandonment of one of the former municipal supply wells, treatment of water from the other historic well during times of high demand so that it could be used as a seasonal supplemental source of drinking water, and beneficial re-use of the air stripped effluent water by the Village of Bruno.

An engineering study was completed subsequent to the ROD to determine if a more efficient treatment technology, groundwater circulating wells (GCWs), would be applicable to the cleanup at Bruno. The study was completed in 2000 and indicated that the original remedy selected in the 1998 ROD was the optimum choice. The cost of the original remedy was updated and an Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) was finalized in August of 2000 following public comment. The ESD elaborated on the cost increase over time and updated the decision document following the completion of the GCW technology study.

Negotiations with the responsible parties were initiated following the release of the ESD and agreement was reached in 2002. A Consent Decree for remedial design and remedial action (RD/RA) was lodged on October 17, 2002. The RD/RA work is being conducted by the Union Pacific Railroad Company with partial funding supplied by USDA and local administrative support by the Bruno Cooperative Association. These three entities are the signatories to the Consent Decree entered into with EPA.



Remedy Design: The remedial design began in October 2002 and is ongoing. Conestoga-Rovers and Associates is the primary contractor of the Union Pacific Railroad Company and is thus conducting the RD/RA responsible party work at the site. A design meeting and field visit were conducted on October 30, 2002 and the draft remedial design work plan was submitted on December 12, 2002. The RD work plan was approved by EPA and NDEQ in January 2003 and a pre-bid meeting for the drilling contractor was held at the site in April 2003. The remedial design includes the performance of design investigation studies.

Site Facts: The site is a former USDA grain bin facility with a groundwater plume containing carbon tetrachloride, chloroform, and 1,2-dichloroethane. The Village of Bruno is a small rural farming community with a population of less than 200 people. The two municipal wells serving the village were impacted thus requiring the temporary provision of bottled water to village residents prior to the construction of two new municipal wells. The new wells are a permanent source of drinking water but the impacted groundwater plume remains uncontrolled pending the design and construction of a pump and treat system. The selected remedy also includes abandonment of one of the former municipal wells and seasonal treatment of the other municipal well during times of water shortage. The cleaned, air stripped water will be available for beneficial re-use by the village as desired. The work is being conducted by responsible parties under oversight by EPA and NDEQ. The project is currently in the remedial design phase.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS



By providing bottled water to affected residents, the immediate threats posed to the nearby population were eliminated pending the construction of two new permanent municipal wells. These actions allowed the historic contaminated wells to be taken out of service and provided the population with a clean source of drinking water. Site characterization studies were completed and cleanup alternatives were evaluated prior to the selection of a cleanup approach embodied in the ROD. Additional cleanup approach enhancements were evaluated by the completion of another engineering study and an ESD was released as the final cleanup decision document. Negotiations with responsible parties were undertaken and resulted in the successful completion of a Consent Decree to implement the selected cleanup alternative. The work has begun and the project is in the remedial design stage.

SITE REPOSITORY



Bruno Post Office
Bruno, NE

Superfund Records Center
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Kansas City, KS 66101
Mail Stop SUPR
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MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

STATE:

NE

07DH

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

01

EPA ORGANIZATION:

SFD-SUPR/FFSE

MODIFICATIONS